(a) whether despite cent percent utilisation of capacity, the sugar industry suffered considerable losses dirung 1990-91 and 1991-92 so far;

(b) the extent of capacity utilisation and the estimated losses suffered by the industry during these years;

(c) the present sugar production capacity in the contry;

(d)the reasons for the losses suffered, and

(e) the remedial steps taken and are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (d). The financial results of sugar factories vary from region to region and from factory to factory. The profita-bility depends upon various factors such as installed capacity, quantum of cane crusted, condition of plant and machinery, technical and managerial effeciency as also recovery percentage of sugar from sugarcane and duration of crushing. Details of losses suffered, if any, by sugar factories are not complied.

During 1990-91 season, capacity utilisation was of the order of 122.3 percent. Current sugar production capacity as on 15.2.1992 is about 100.00 lakh tonnes. Capacity utilisation for 1991-92 season would be known only at the end of the season.

(e) Government have taken various measures to improve the viability of sugar factories which include continuation of levy freesale ratio at 45:55, grant of incentives by way of higher freesale quota on production achieved during early and late crushing periods, grant of loans from the Sugar Development Fund at concessional rates of interest for cane development schemes as well as for modernisation/rehabilitation.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Cancer and Sidlcases Research Centre at Rajmahal, Bihar

4284. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the Health Organisations/Hospitals and various Medical Research Centres set up by the Union Government in Santhal Pargana and Chhotanagpur districts of Bihar;

(b) whether medical facilities are negligible for tribal and backward people of this area:

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up a modern hospital at Rajmahal Pahari in Sahibganj district;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether Government propose to set up a cancer and Silicos Research Centre for treatment of tribal people and labourers working in coal and various mines of Rajmahal, area.

(g) if so, the details thereof: and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) As health is a State subject under the Constitution, no hospital/ medical research centre has been set up by the Central Government in this area.

(b) to give special facilities to the tribal population, Tribal Sub-Plan is in operation in States/UTs. The Govt. of India has relaxed norms for setting up Sub-Centres and Primary Health Centres in Tribal areas @ 3,000 population per sub-Centre and 20,000 population per Primary Health Centre in tribal areas respectively as against the general norms of 5,000 population per sub-Centre and 30,000 population per Primary Health Centre.

(c) and (d). There is no such proposal.

(e) Health is a State subject under the Constitution and the setting up of hospitals are under the control of the State Govt.

(f) to (h). This Ministry has no proposal.

[*English*]

Travel Concession to Senior Citizens

4285. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations from organisations of senior citizens to seek further travel concessions:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)The demand is for grant of rail travel concession to the senior citizens of the age of 58 years and above in all classes without any distance restriction.

(c) Due to resource constrains and increase in input costs, it is not found feasible to accede to the request for further concession for senior citizens.

Reservation Quota from Punalur and Kottarakkara Stations

4286. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the reservation quota from Punalur and Kottarakkara Stations in Kerala for Kerala Express, Jayanti Janata and Rajkot Express; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). A quota of 2 Second class berths each by train No. 2625 Trivandrum-New Delhi Kerala Express, 1082 Cape-Bombay V.T. Jayanthi Express and No. 2604 Trivandrum-Rajkot Express Ex. Quilon is already available at Punalur and Kottarakkara stations. Due to limited availability of reserved accommodation and full utilisation of quotas at the existing quota holding stations, it is not feasible to provide additional quotas at these stations for the present.

[*Translation*]

Tunnel between Ratanpur and Jamalpur

4287. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the work on railway line passing through the tunnel between Ratanpur and Jamalpur stations was undertaken and when it was completed;

(b) the time limit of that tunnel determined by engineers; and

(c) whether it is safe to pass trains through this tunnel and if not, the steps being taken to make it safe?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The line alongwith the tunnel was started in 1856 and completed in 1861.

(b) Condition of the tunnel is satisfactory. No particular life span has therefore been specified.

(c) yes, Sir.

[*English*]

Bogies in Local Trains

4288. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the local trains are running with dilapidated bogies;